

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **APPLICATION FOR PERMIT**

**Public Notice/Application No.:** 2004-01217-MB

**Comment Period:** October 1, 2004 through October 31, 2004

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**Applicant**

City of Needles  
Mr. Jeffrey Woods, PE  
City Engineer  
817 Third Street  
Needles, California 92363  
(760) 326-2113

**AGENT**

Concept Marine Associates, Inc.  
Mr. Gregory Reid  
1853 Embarcadero  
Oakland, California 94606  
(510) 533-7600

**Location**

At the existing Jack Smith Park lagoon in the Colorado River (Section 33, T17N, R22W), Needles, San Bernardino County, California.

**Activity**

To maintenance dredge the existing lagoon, expand an existing boat ramp, install courtesy and sheriff docks, grade the bankline, and add bank stabilization. For more information, see page 3 of this notice and attached drawings (Figures 1-9 of 9).

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Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for the activity described herein and shown on the attached drawing(s). Interested parties are invited to provide their views on the proposed work, which will become a part of the record and will be considered in the decision. This permit application will be issued or denied under Section 10 of the River and Harbor Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

Comments can be e-mailed to [marjorie.e.blaine@usace.army.mil](mailto:marjorie.e.blaine@usace.army.mil) or mailed to:

**U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTENTION: Regulatory Branch (2004-01217-MB)  
5205 E. Comanche Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85707**

## Evaluation Factors

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that will be considered include conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, if the proposal would discharge dredged or fill material, the evaluation of the activity will include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR 230) as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

## Preliminary Review of Selected Factors

**EIS Determination-** A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.

**Water Quality-** The applicant will be required to obtain water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires that any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers.

**Cultural Resources-** The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and this site is not listed. The Corps has made a determination of “no historic properties affected” for this proposed project and has consulted the California State Historic Preservation Office and the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe. This review constitutes the extent of cultural resources investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources.

**Endangered Species-** Preliminary determinations indicate that the proposed activity may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the federally-listed endangered razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*). There is no federally designated critical habitat within the project area. The Corps initiated informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on September 28, 2004.

**Public Hearing-** Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state with particularity the reasons for holding a public hearing.

## Proposed Activity for Which a Permit is Required

The City of Needles proposes a renovation at the existing Jack Smith Park along the Colorado River (Figure 1) to enhance public recreational opportunities. Project features include dredging of the existing lagoon, reconstruction and expansion of an existing boat ramp, installation of courtesy docks and a sheriff's dock, reconfiguration of existing jetties, and bank stabilization (Figure 2). The initial action will be to sweep the area within the lagoon towards the river with a fish net to remove as many fish as possible. To minimize water quality impacts to the river during dredging, a temporary, sheet-pile cofferdam will be installed at the entrance to the lagoon (Figure 3). Water in the lagoon will be allowed to settle to reduce turbidity and water which has an equal or lower turbidity than the river will be pumped into the river; the remainder will be pumped to the bermed, dredged material disposal site (Figure 8) and allowed to infiltrate into the ground. A sump will be installed within the lagoon to periodically pump water which has accumulated in the lagoon to the bermed disposal site. The existing ramp will provide the staging platform for all work associated with the work below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM). Once all water has been removed from the lagoon, the existing rock revetment within the protected area will be removed and stockpiled above the OHWM. Shoreline areas within the lagoon will be regraded so the final, stabilized slope will be 2:1 (H:V) (Figures 4-6). Dredging of 20,000 cubic yards (cy) of accumulated sediment will be removed from the lagoon area with a clamshell and transported to the disposal site and spread within the containment berms to promote infiltration. Once dredging is complete, a filter fabric will be placed over the shoreline and jetties and bedding materials consisting of well-graded, crushed angular gravel will be placed; approximately 4,025 cy (including the previously stockpiled rock) of increasingly larger sizes of rock will be placed to stabilize the shoreline. Once all shoreline stabilization is complete, the existing concrete ramp will be removed and the concrete disposed of at an off-site, upland location. The site will be recompacted and a 6-inch layer of compacted base material will be installed. A cast-in-place concrete ramp (150' l x 76' w) will be poured. Concrete abutments will be constructed with aluminum boarding floats attached and secured in place using galvanized steel pipe piling driven with a landside pile-driving rig. This will provide two 80' l x 8' w floating courtesy docks each attached to a concrete abutment above the OHWM by a 35' l x 4' w aluminum gangway (Figures 4 and 9). Approximately 173 cy of concrete will be poured for the ramp and abutments. Inside the downstream entrance to the lagoon, a 30' l x 8' wide sheriff's floating dock will be installed attached above the OHWM to a concrete abutment by a 50' l x 4' wide gangway (Figures 7 and 9). It will be anchored by two 8" diameter steel, hydraulically-driven guide piles. Dock construction will occur after the cofferdam has been removed. No exposed Styrofoam will be used for any docks. The proposed project will impact 2.6 acres of waters of the U.S. and will increase the current water surface area by .3 acre through dredging and regrading of the slopes.

## Additional Project Information

The Colorado River is a perennial, navigable water of the United States and is subject to interstate commerce. The scope of analysis for the Corps' permit includes all areas at and below the ordinary high water mark of the lagoon and the main channel of the Colorado River adjacent to the park as well as the dredged material (spoil) deposition site adjacent to the lagoon as shown on Figure 8 of 9. The Corps has preliminarily determined the proposed activity represents the least environmentally damaging, practicable alternative. The area lies north of the Topock Marsh and Havasu National Wildlife Refuge. Most of the native vegetation within the project area has been previously removed through park development; however, remnant vegetation along the beach slopes and park edges include arrow weed (*Pluchea sericea*), emory baccharis (*Baccharis emoryi*), and quailbrush (*Atriplex polycarpa*) and a few small tamarisk (*Tamarix* sp.), willow saplings (*Salix* sp.), western honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa* var. *torreyana*), Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*), and various grasses. The lagoon currently has degraded functions and values due to the accumulation of sediment; dredging should improve the water quality and habitat for fish spawning. The applicant will mitigate impacts to waters of the U.S. with in-lieu-fee mitigation.

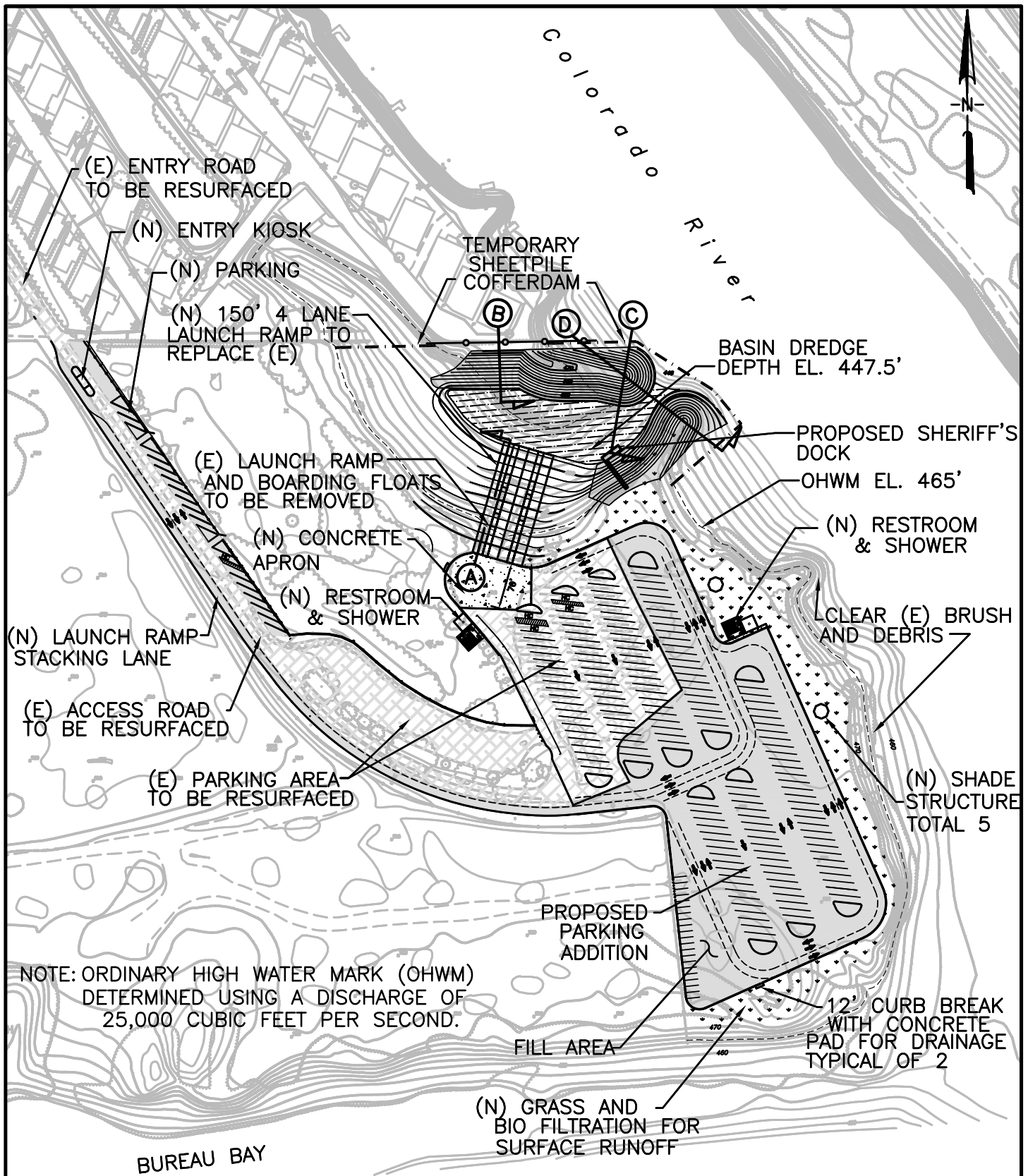
## **Proposed Special Conditions**

- a. The permittee shall minimize disturbance to native vegetation and shall not remove any wetland vegetation (cattails and bulrush) which exist downstream of the project area at Bureau Bay.
- b. If styrofoam is used for flotation, it shall be closed cell polystyrene.
- c. All dredged material shall be disposed of within the bermed containment area as shown on Figure 8.
- d. The permittee shall not divert flows outside of the ordinary high water mark of the Colorado River.
- e. The permittee shall not discharge construction debris into the waters of the Colorado River.
- f. The permittee shall remove all fish from the lagoon, install the temporary, sheet-pile cofferdam, and pump the lagoon by December 15, 2004.
- g. The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.
- h. The permittee shall remove all construction debris/equipment from the site immediately upon completion of construction.
- i. Prior to onset of construction, the permittee shall provide the contractor(s) with a copy of this permit. The contractor shall read and agree to comply with all conditions herein. A copy of this permit shall be kept onsite at all times during construction.

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For additional information please call Marjorie E. Blaine at (520) 584-1684. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Branch.



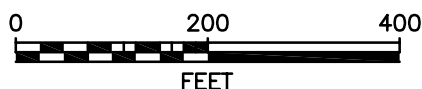


PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

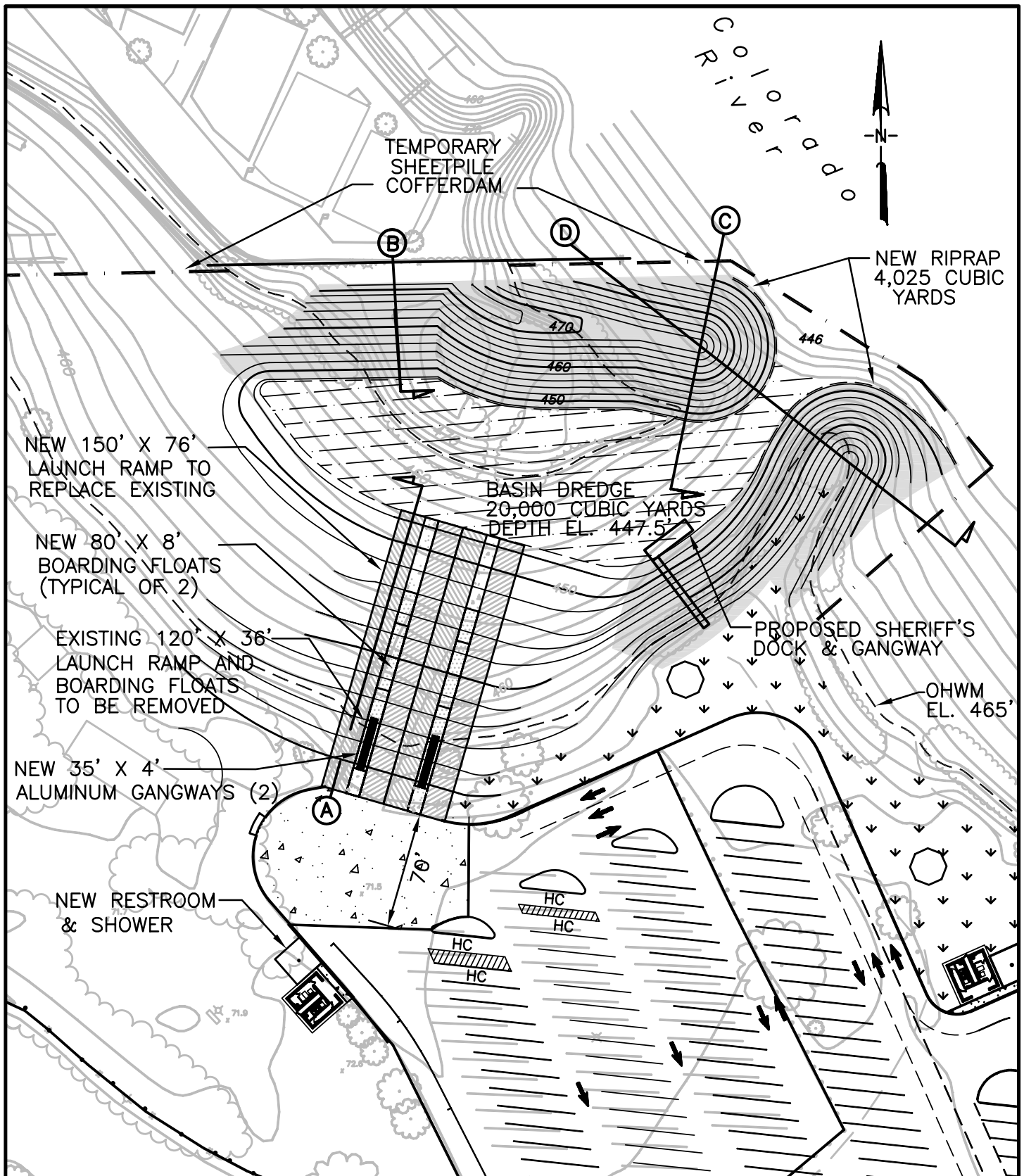
# PLAN VIEW - 1



CITY OF NEEDLES  
817 THIRD STREET  
NEEDLES, CA 92363

20306

IN: COLORADO RIVER  
AT: JACK SMITH PARK  
COUNTY OF: SAN BERNARDINO  
APPLICATION BY: CITY OF NEEDLES  
DATE: 7/12/04  
PAGE 2 OF 9

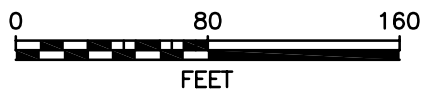


PURPOSE:

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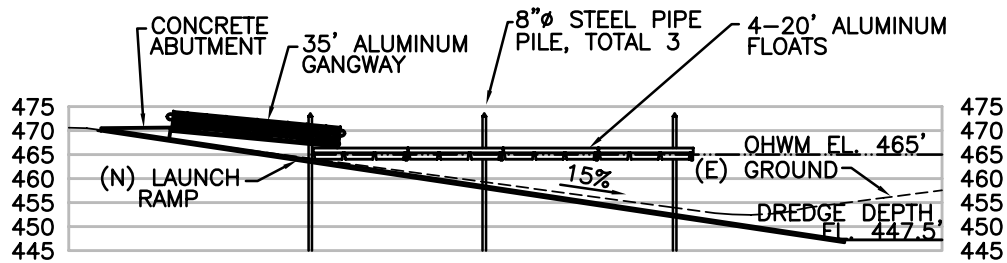
PLAN VIEW - 2



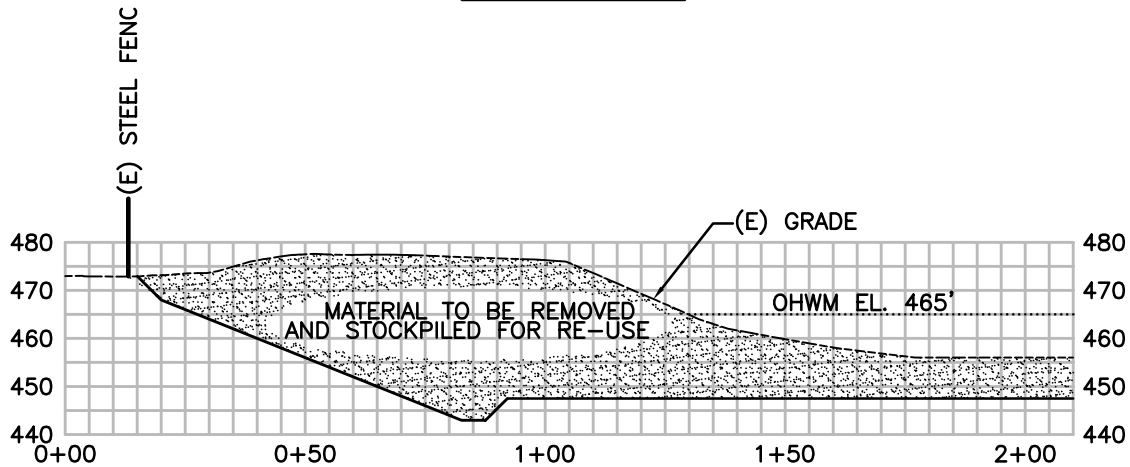
CITY OF NEEDLES  
817 THIRD STREET  
NEEDLES, CA 92363

20306

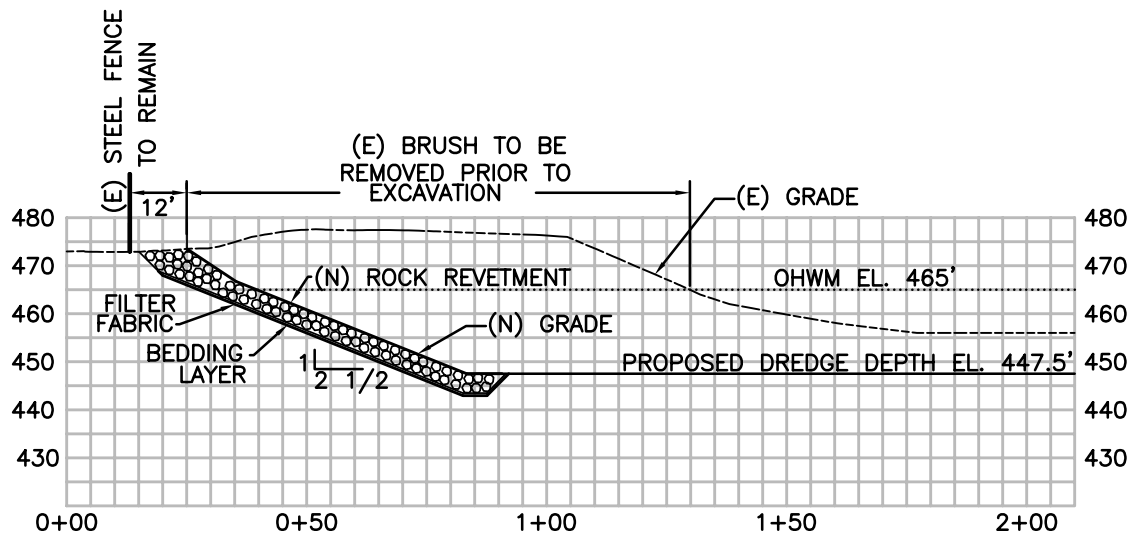
IN: COLORADO RIVER  
AT: JACK SMITH PARK  
COUNTY OF: SAN BERNARDINO  
APPLICATION BY: CITY OF NEEDLES  
DATE: 9/28/04  
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## SECTION A



## SECTION B – EXISTING



## SECTION B – PROPOSED

PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

### SECTIONS

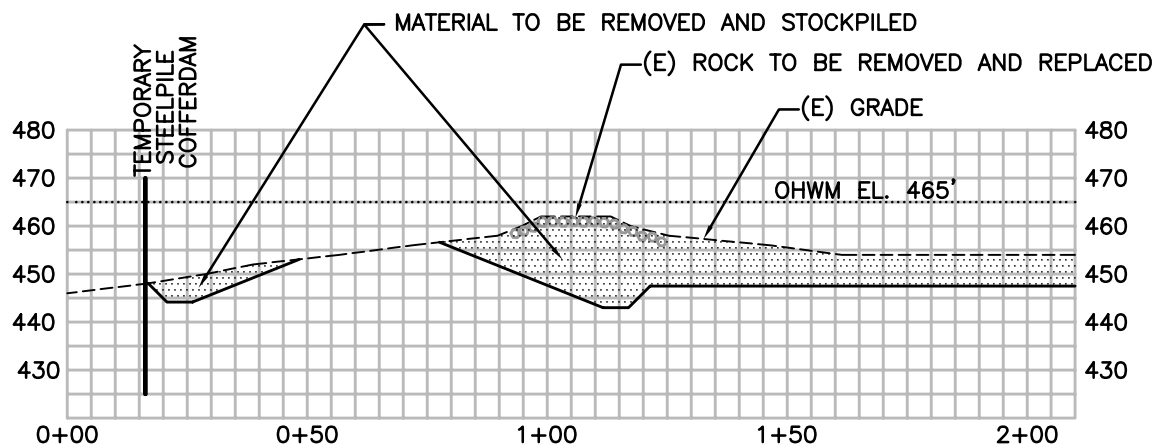
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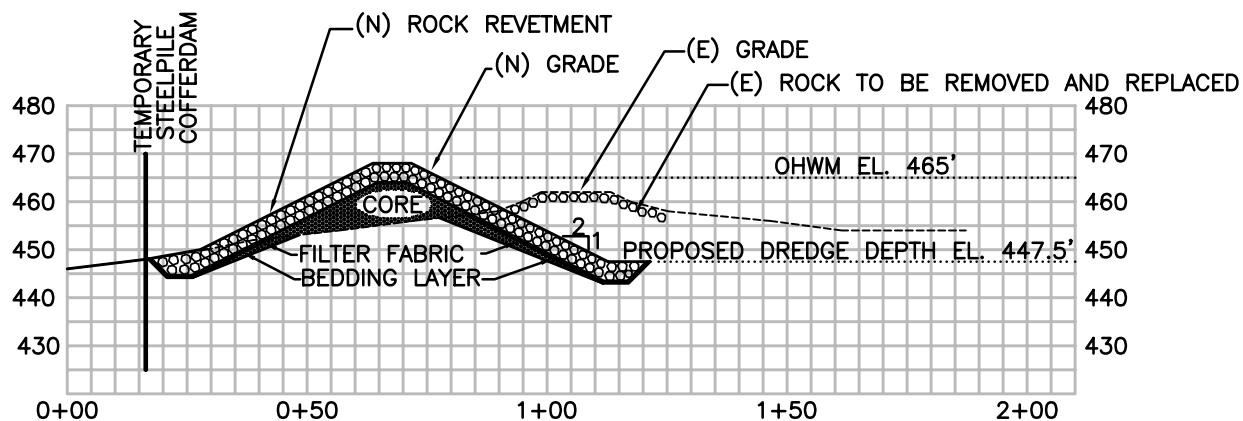
20306

IN: COLORADO RIVER  
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DATE: 9/28/04  
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**SECTION C — EXISTING**  
SCALE: 1" = 40'



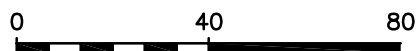
**SECTION C — PROPOSED**  
SCALE: 1" = 40'

PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

**SECTION 2**

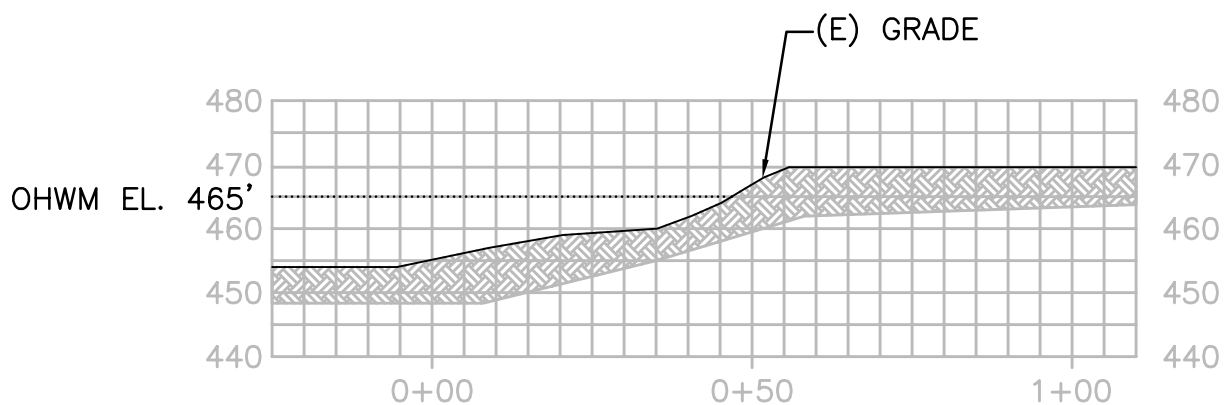


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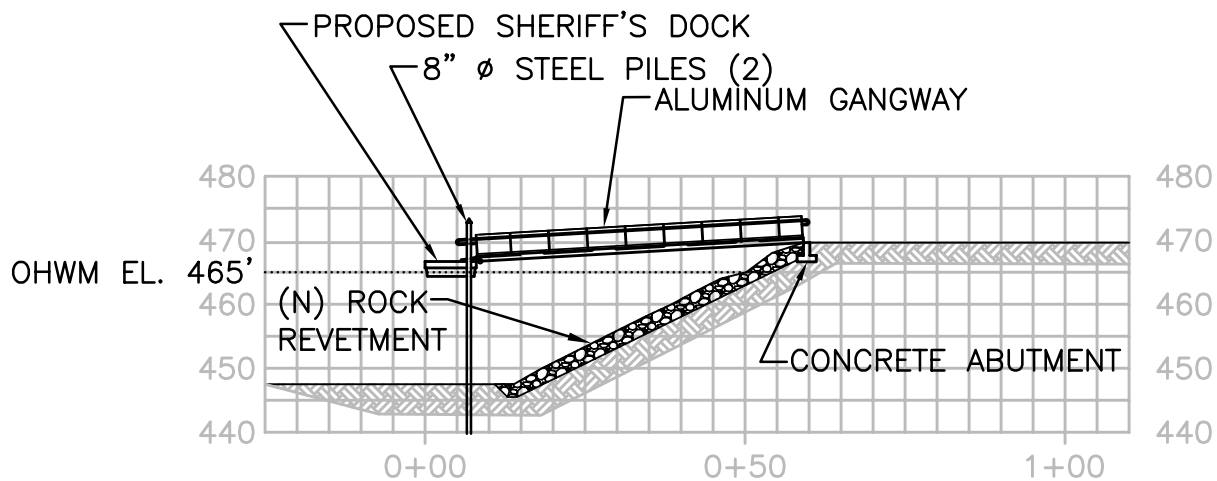
20306

IN: COLORADO RIVER  
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EXISTING



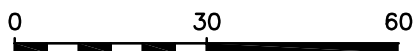
PROPOSED

PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

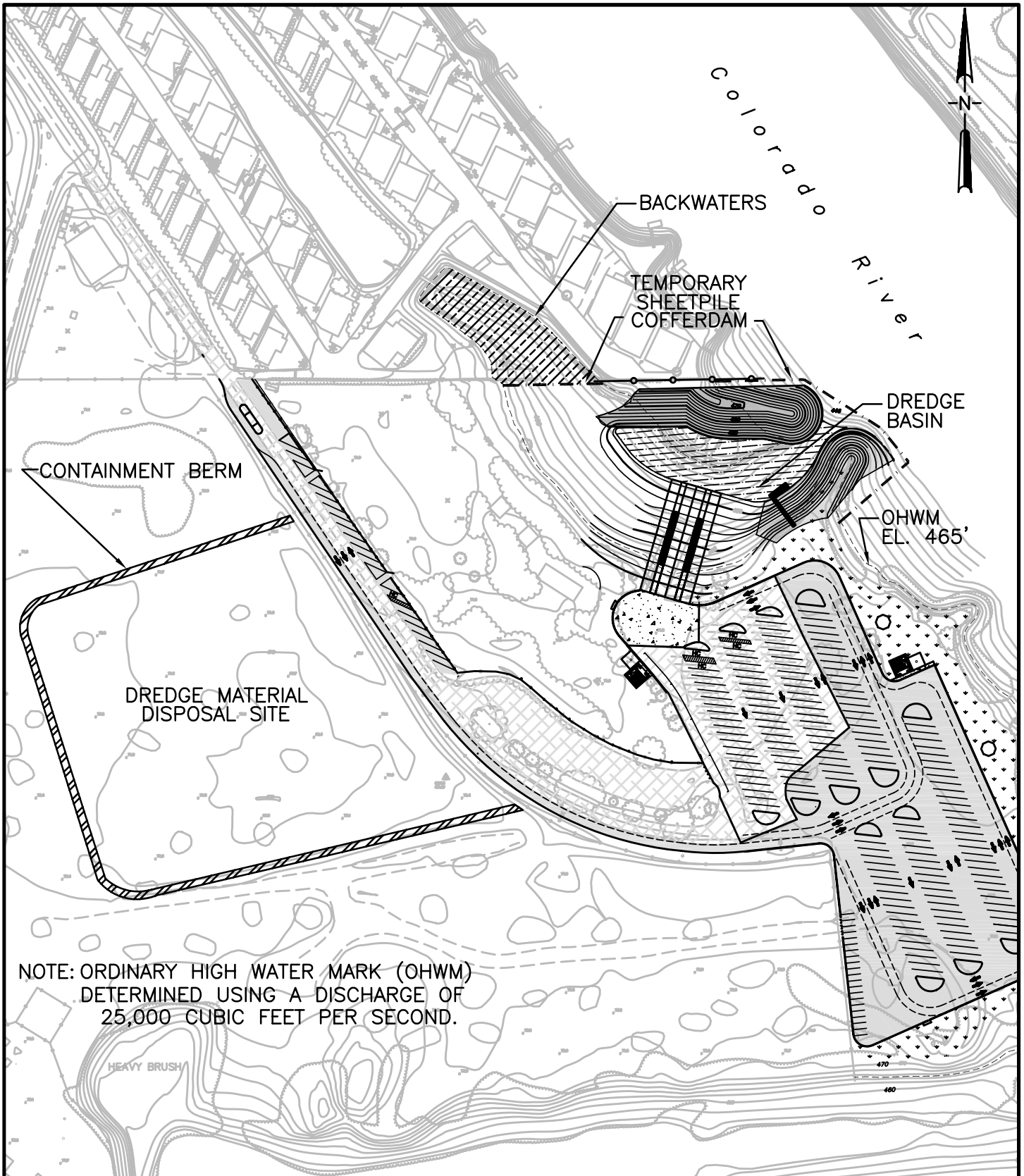
SHERIFF'S DOCK SECTION



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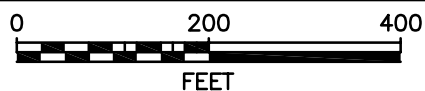
NOTE: ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK (OHWM)  
DETERMINED USING A DISCHARGE OF  
25,000 CUBIC FEET PER SECOND.

PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

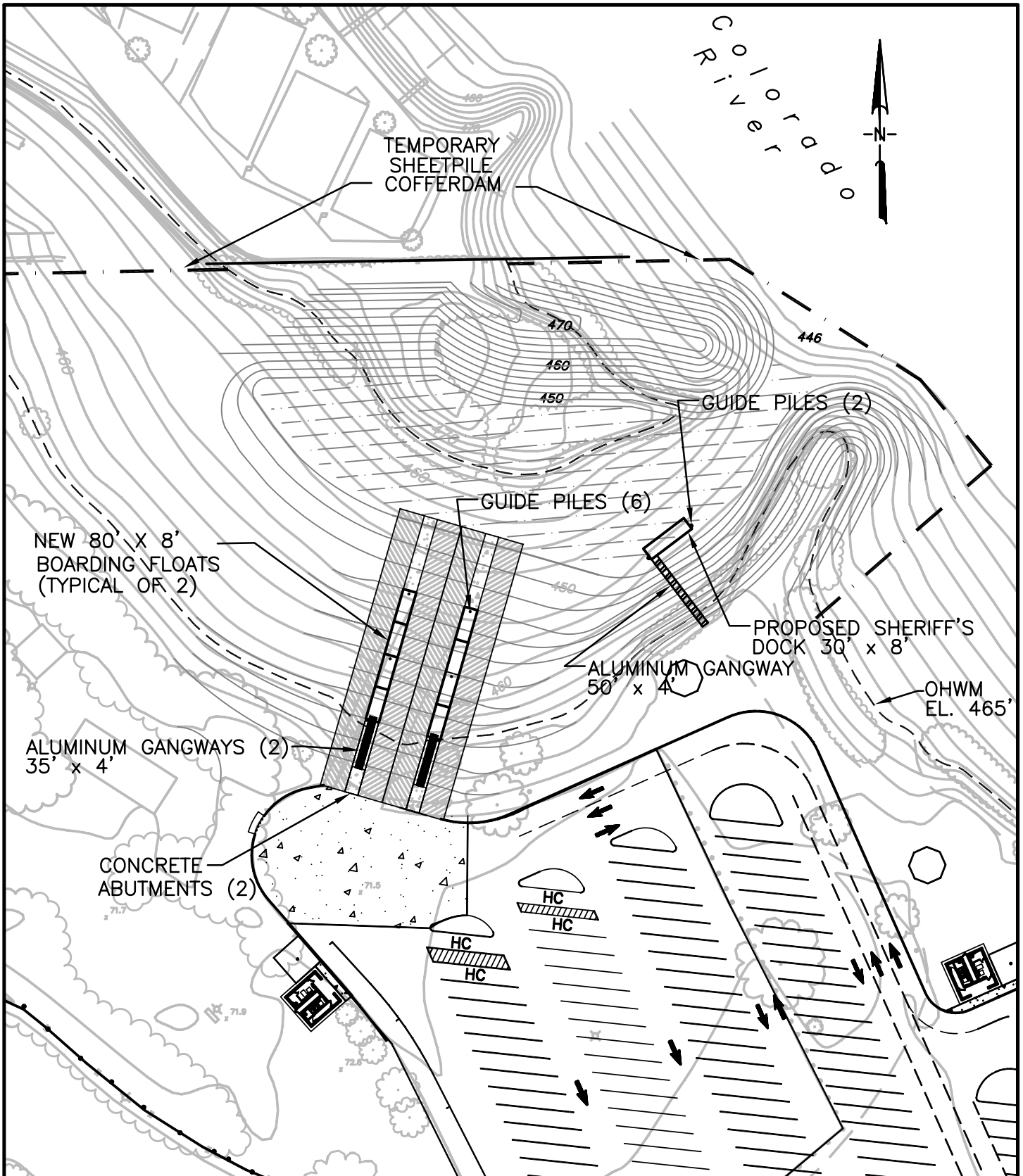
## DREDGE MATERIAL DISPOSAL SITE



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NEEDLES, CA 92363

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APPLICATION BY: CITY OF NEEDLES  
DATE: 7/12/04  
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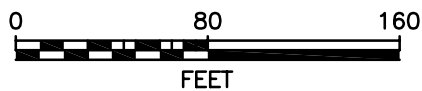


PURPOSE:

LAUNCH RAMP REFURBISHMENT

DATUM: NGVD

### DOCK PLAN



CITY OF NEEDLES  
817 THIRD STREET  
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